

- 1. (Currently Amended) A processor-based method for evolving a graph structure determining a set of weights for a set of arcs of a graph structure comprising the step of determining a genome representation for the evolving a set of weights for a set of arcs in the graph structure such that the arcs of the graph structure that participate in a substructure of the graph structure are in a close proximity in the genome representation.
- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of evolving the weights using the genome representation.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining a genome representation comprises the step of determining a matrix which indicates an optimal arrangement of the weights in the genome representation in response to the interconnections among a set of nodes and the arcs of the graph structure.
- 4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of determining a matrix comprises the steps of: determining a connection matrix which indicates interconnections among the nodes and the arcs;

determining a weight matrix which indicates an amount by which each element of the weight matrix is off a diagonal;

determining a product matrix of the connection matrix and the weight matrix.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the step of determining a matrix further comprises the step of determining a score by summing a set of elements of the

product matrix.

- 6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising the step of minimizing the score by swapping one or more rows and columns of the matrix.
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the graph structure is a neural network.
- 8. (Currently Amended) A <u>processor-based</u> method for deriving a genome representation for <u>evolving</u> a set of weights in a graph structure, comprising the steps of:

determining a substructure of the graph structure; determining an arrangement in the genome representation such that the weights that participate in the substructure are in a close proximity in the genome representation.

- 9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the step of determining an arrangement comprises the step of determining a matrix which indicates an optimal arrangement of the weights in the genome representation in response to the interconnections among a set of nodes and the arcs of the graph structure.
- 10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the step of determining a matrix comprises the steps of:

determining a connection matrix which indicates interconnections among the nodes and the arcs;

determining a weight matrix which indicates an amount by which each element of the weight matrix is off a diagonal;

determining a product matrix of the connection matrix and the weight matrix.

- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the step of determining a matrix further comprises the step of determining a score by summing a set of elements of the product matrix.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 11, further comprising the step of minimizing score by swapping one or more rows and columns of the matrix.
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the graph structure is a neural network.
- 14. (New) A computer-readable storage media that holds a program that when executed evolves a graph structure by determining a genome representation for evolving a set of weights for a set of arcs in the graph structure such that the arcs that participate in a substructure of the graph structure are in a close proximity in the genome representation.
- 15. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 14, wherein determining a genome representation comprises determining a matrix which indicates an optimal arrangement of the weights in the genome representation in response to the interconnections among a set of nodes and the arcs of the graph structure.
- 16. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 15, wherein determining a matrix comprises:

determining a connection matrix which indicates interconnections among the nodes and the arcs;

determining a weight matrix which indicates an amount by which each element of the weight matrix is off a diagonal;

determining a product matrix of the connection

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matrix and the weight matrix.

- 17. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 16, wherein determining a matrix further comprises determining a score by summing a set of elements of the product matrix.
- 18. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 17, further comprising minimizing the score by swapping one or more rows and columns of the matrix.
- 19. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 14, wherein the graph structure is a neural network.
- 20. (New) A computer-readable storage media that holds a program that when executed derives a genome representation for evolving a set of weights in a graph structure by:

determining a substructure of the graph structure; determining an arrangement in the genome representation such that the weights that participate in the substructure are in a close proximity in the genome representation.

- 21. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 20, wherein determining an arrangement comprises determining a matrix which indicates an optimal arrangement of the weights in the genome representation in response to the interconnections among a set of nodes and the arcs of the graph structure.
- 22. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 21, wherein determining a matrix comprises:

determining a connection matrix which indicates interconnections among the nodes and the arcs;

determining a weight matrix which indicates an amount by which each element of the weight matrix is off a diagonal;

determining a product matrix of the connection matrix and the weight matrix.

- 23. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 22, wherein determining a matrix further comprises determining a score by summing a set of elements of the product matrix.
- 24. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 23, further comprising minimizing score by swapping one or more rows and columns of the matrix.
- 25. (New) The computer-readable storage media of claim 20, wherein the graph structure is a neural network.
- 26. (New) A processor-based method for designing a neural network, comprising:

determining a genome representation for a set of weights for a graph structure representing the neural network such that a set of arcs of the graph structure that participate in a substructure of the graph structure are in a close proximity in the genome representation;

evolving the weights using the genome representation.

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein determining a genome representation comprises determining a matrix which indicates an optimal arrangement of the weights in the genome representation in response to the interconnections among a set of nodes and the arcs of the graph structure.

28. (New) The method of claim 27, wherein determining a matrix comprises:

determining a connection matrix which indicates interconnections among the nodes and the arcs;

determining a weight matrix which indicates an amount by which each element of the weight matrix is off a diagonal;

determining a product matrix of the connection matrix and the weight matrix.

- 29. (New) The method of claim 28, wherein determining a matrix further comprises determining a score by summing a set of elements of the product matrix.
- 30. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising minimizing the score by swapping one or more rows and columns of the matrix.

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